

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for inhibiting proliferation of a tumor in
2 a mammal, the method comprising:

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4 administering to the mammal harboring the tumor a
5 composition comprising,

6 (a) an immunogenic stress protein-peptide complex
7 isolated from a cell derived from the tumor,
8 said complex being operative to initiate in
9 the mammal an immune response against said
10 tumor, and

11 (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier,

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13 in an amount sufficient to elicit in the mammal an
14 immune response against the tumor thereby inhibiting
15 proliferation of the tumor.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the stress protein
2 in the complex is a Hsp70, a Hsp90 or a gp96.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein a peptide in the
2 complex is non covalently associated with the stress
3 protein.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein administering the
2 complex initiates an immune response mediated by a T
3 cell.

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1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein administering the
2 complex initiates an immune response mediated by a
3 cytotoxic T cell.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the complex is
2 administered to the mammal in an amount in the range of
3 about 1 to about 1000 micrograms of complex/kg body
4 weight of mammal/administration.

1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein said amount is in
2 the range of about 100 to about 250 micrograms of
3 complex/kg body weight of mammal/administration..

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the complex is
2 administered repeatedly to the mammal.

1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the composition is
2 administered to the mammal in combination with a
3 cytokine.

1 10. A method for inhibiting proliferation of a tumor in
2 a mammal, the method comprising the steps of:

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4 (a) providing a tumor cell excised from the
5 mammal,
6 (b) isolating from the cell an immunogenic stress
7 protein-peptide complex operative to initiate
8 in the mammal an immune response against the
9 tumor cell, and
10 (c) administering to the mammal the isolated
11 stress protein-peptide complex in an amount
12 sufficient to elicit in the mammal an immune
13 response against the tumor cell thereby to
14 inhibit proliferation of any tumor cell
15 remaining in the mammal.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the stress protein
2 in the complex is a Hsp70, a Hsp90 or a gp96.

1 12. The method of claim 10, wherein a peptide in the
2 complex is non covalently associated with the stress
3 protein.

1 13. The method of claim 10, wherein administering the
2 complex initiates an immune response mediated by a T
3 cell.

1 14. The method of claim 13, wherein administering the
2 complex initiates an immune response mediated by a
3 cytotoxic T cell.

1 15. The method of claim 10, wherein the complex is
2 administered to the mammal in an amount in the range of
3 about 1 to about 1000 micrograms of complex/kg body
4 weight of mammal/administration.

1 16. The method of claim 15, wherein said amount is in
2 the range of about 100 to about 250 micrograms of
3 complex/kg body weight of mammal/administration.

1 17. The method of claim 10, wherein the complex is
2 administered repeatedly to the mammal.

1 18. The method of claim 10, wherein said complex is
2 administered to the mammal in combination with a
3 cytokine.